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HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1918.

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Hongkong, April 11, 1918.

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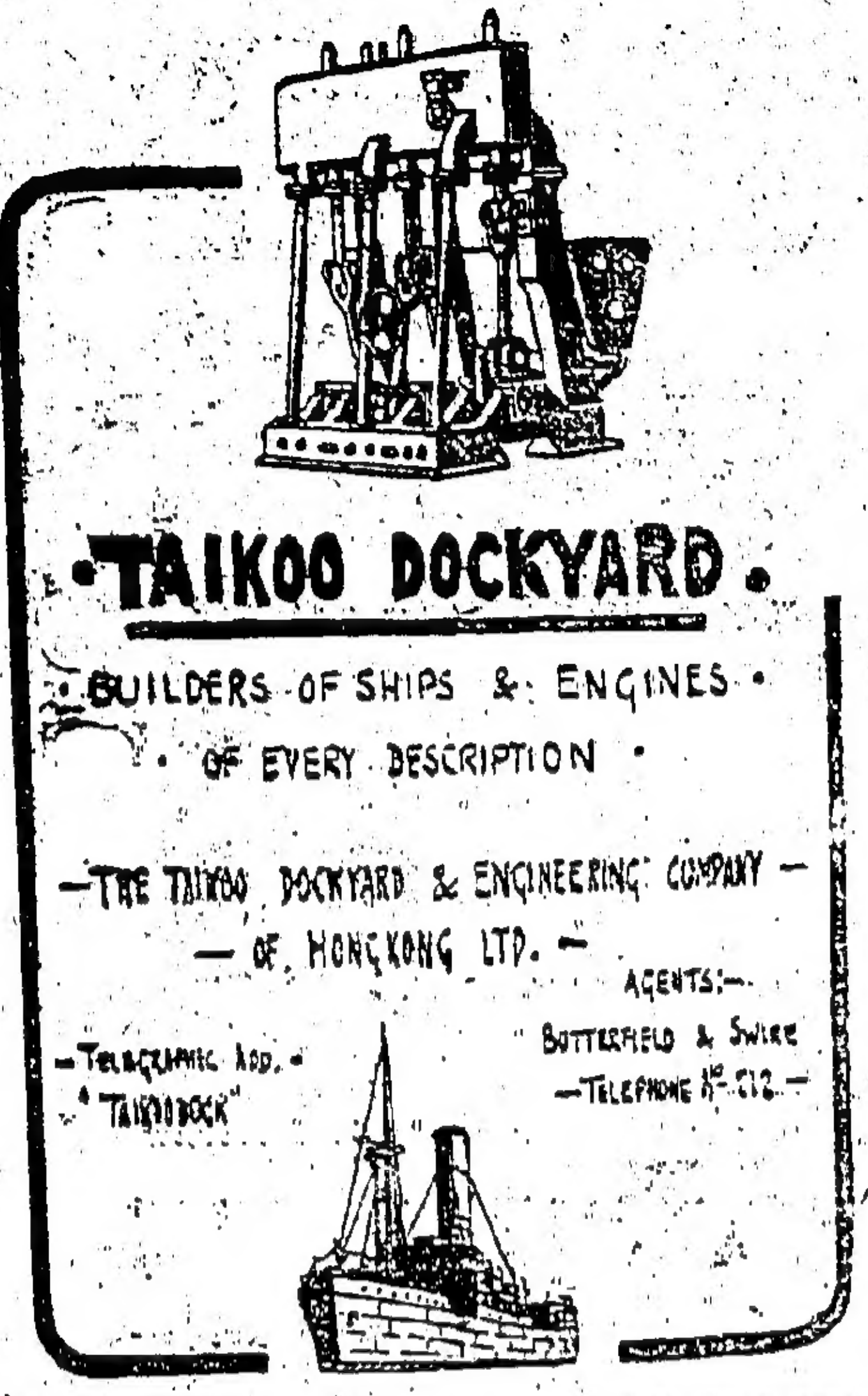
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Hongkong, April 1, 1918.

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THE WAR.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Router's Service is the China Mail.)

FRIDAY'S FIGHTING.
THE ENEMY'S FAILURE DESCRIBED.

LONDON, Mar. 11.
Router's Correspondent at British Headquarters writes:—
Since the German attack on Friday and our subsequent counter-attacks enemy infantry has been inactive. It is believed that the enemy planned to launch these attacks at earlier dates, but the intensity of our artillery fire caused postponements.
The northern attack was delivered at 4 o'clock on Friday morning, and the southern attack was due simultaneously, but our barrage held it up. The object of the former was to straighten the salient of our line south of the Houthulst Forest.
The enemy assaulted under cover of a smoke barrage on a front of 2,000 yards on the northern flank and was completely repulsed, but in the centre, the sappers succeeded in rushing six posts forming our advanced line.
The garrisons reformed a hundred yards away and immediately counter-attacked but unsuccessfully, whereupon supports from the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry attacked and the Germans ran before our men could close with them.
The southern attack began at six in the evening. It aimed at possessing a little ridge, near the Polderhoek chateau. Despite a heavy barrage the Germans gained the nose of the ridge and got into the front trench on a front of 300 yards.
The King's Royal Rifles, holding the position, fell back in good order, after heavily bombing the enemy and counter-attacking unsuccessfully.
During the night the Royal Fusiliers were reinforced, and a second counter-attack resulted in fierce hand-to-hand fighting.
By dawn we had entirely recovered every inch of the lost ground.
Enemy artillery responded heavily to our barrage and three shells burst successively upon the company headquarters of the King's Royal Rifles, burying the occupants, who, however, were all dug out alive.
Elsewhere along the front there has been violent gun-firing.
The weather is fine and hazy.
Our airmen continue their wonderful work of bombing the Germans out of the sky, their latest record being 12 machines crashed and one shot down by the archies and 21 driven down out of control during Friday's daylight raid.
Only three of our planes failed to return.

FINE WORK BY BRITISH AIRMEN.

LONDON, Mar. 10.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says:—
We dropped 600 bombs on dumps, billets and aerodromes, also on an important railway centre north-eastward of St. Quentin.
A large number of machines carried out a particularly successful attack from a low height on three aerodromes, directly hitting hangars and machines in the open at each aerodrome. Returning at a height of a hundred feet they machine-gunned favourable ground targets, causing casualties and scattering a company of infantry in all directions.
The fighting in the air was heavy. We brought down ten machines and drove down ten.
Two of our machines are missing. We to-day dropped 1 1/2 tons of bombs on the Daimler motor works at Stuttgart in broad daylight. Several bursts were observed at a railway station, where a stationary train was set on fire. Three bursts were observed on a munition factory south-eastward of the town and other bursts in the Daimler works and buildings.
Hostile machines withdrew, after making a weak attempt to attack our formation.
One of our machines did not return owing to engine trouble.

NAVAL AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

LONDON, Mar. 11.
The Admiralty states:—Our aeroplanes bombed the Engel aerodrome and dump, where two fires started. We destroyed three enemy aircraft and drove down four others uncontrollable.
All our planes returned.

ENEMY DEFEATS ON FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, Mar. 11.
A French communiqué states:—In a counter-attack we repulsed an enemy attempt to reach our lines in the neighbourhood of the St. Hilaire-St. Souplet road, Champagne. We took prisoners.
After a violent bombardment the enemy made a double attack, in which special assaulting troops participated, against Goose Hill and Deadman Hill, on the left of the Meuse. The assailants everywhere were repulsed.
A strong enemy group attempting to gain a footing in our trenches north of St. Mihiel were dispersed. American troops in Lorraine made a daring raid.

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S LATEST REPORTS.

LONDON, Mar. 10.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
A hostile raiding party, under cover of a heavy bombardment, attacked our posts eastward of Arras.
A few British soldiers are missing. We repulsed them.
Artillery firing has markedly increased between the La Bassée Canal and Ypres.
LONDON, Mar. 11.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
We made a successful raid southward of St. Quentin. Several of the enemy were killed or taken prisoners, and two machine-guns captured.
We drove off an enemy party north-westward of La Bassée.
There was considerable reciprocal artillery firing south-eastward of Arras.

AMERICANS IN TWO SUCCESSFUL RAIDS.

LONDON, Mar. 11.
Reuters' Correspondent at French Headquarters writes:—
The Americans participated in two raids in Lorraine on Saturday. In the first, east of Reillon, 40 of the Ohio Infantry co-operating with 60 French sappers crossed 500 yards in the open, under a German barrage, and wrecked the German shelters and wire. They returned with only four wounded.
In the second, east of Neuvillers, one American and two French companies effected the enemy from three lines of trenches, which they systematically destroyed.
American artillery co-operated most splendidly.
(Continued on Page 2.)

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-SECOND YEARLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HONGKONG CLUB, will be held in the Club House, on MONDAY, the 18th March, 1918, at 8.30 P.M.

By Order
R. DES VOEUX,
Secretary.

Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 201

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Building, Charter Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 3rd day of March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and declaring a Dividend.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, the 14th March, 1918, until SATURDAY, the 3rd March, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 209

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Pedder Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 27th March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 214

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersecretary at 11 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 27th instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers,
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 222

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the General Managers at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant to receive a Statement of the Company's Accounts to 31st December, 1917, and the Report of the General Managers.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 27th instant both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, March 7, 1918. 218

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the firm of A. R. MARY, RENE SALLS, Successors, has as from the 15th February, 1918, sold to Messrs. P. A. LAPICQUE & Co., the S.S. "HANOI" which insures the Postal Service between Hongkong and Haiphong, and also the right to use the name of A. R. MARY, Compagnie de Navigation Tonkinoise.

The business will henceforth be carried on by Messrs. P. A. LAPICQUE & Co., No. 4, Queen's Building, Telephone 950.

P. A. LAPICQUE & Co.
MARNON, A. R. MARY,
RENE SALLS, Successors.

Hongkong, Mar. 5, 1918. 208

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PURCHASERS OF PARIMUTUEL TICKETS on the 5th Race, Second Day, for Cash Sweep, Place and Winners, also Cash Sweep, Ticket Holders, of following Races can obtain a refund on production of their tickets at the Office of the Hongkong Jockey Club on the Ground Floor of the HONGKONG CLUB ANNEX, CHATER ROAD, between the hours of 3.30 P.M. and 8.30 P.M. on MONDAY, the 4th March, 1918, until 29th March (Saturdays and Sundays excepted).

HOLDERS OF UNPAID WINNING TICKETS (Cash Sweep, Place and Winners) will also be paid at the same place, and between the same hours as stated above on production of their tickets.

LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Accountants to the
Hongkong Jockey Club.

Hongkong, Mar. 1, 1918. 192

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INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

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Admission \$1. (Children half price).
Mrs. LOOKER will present the prices at 5 p.m.

FRIDAY,
the 15th March, at 2 to 6 p.m.
Admission ... 30 cts.

The BAND of the 18th Infantry will play on both days.

TEA will be supplied at 50 cents per head by the Hongkong Hotel (who have generously offered to give half the proceeds to War Charities).

H. B. L. DOWBIGGIN,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 221

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Hongkong, Mar. 6, 1918. 212

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MR. LI HUNG YAN, a Chinese graduate of the University of London, is a teacher of French, English and Mathematics in this Colony for ten years. He has a good method of teaching European languages to Chinese students, and is possessed of a first rate certificate as a Chinese teacher. He has also a good knowledge of Mandarin and Cantonese. Those who intend learning the Chinese language are recommended to write Mr. Li Hung Yan at his office at No. 123, Des Voeux Road, 2nd floor.

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Smokers of GARRICK SMOKING MIXTURE are always sure of a cool and refreshing smoke.

They are acknowledged by the connoisseur to stand alone for purity and charm of flavour.

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PROPOSED NEW PETROLEUM CO.

H.M. Minister at The Hague reports that a Bill has been introduced into the States-General having for its object the establishment of a joint stock company for the exploitation of petroleum fields in the Netherlands East Indies. In an explanatory Memorandum appended to the Bill it is stated that the objections attaching to State exploitation are avoided by placing the enterprise in the hands of a company under certain conditions. The conditions mentioned are:—(1) That the national character of the company is guaranteed in the same that the foreign capital participating in the enterprise cannot, by such participation, cause international disputes; (2) That the Colony obtains a measure of control proportionate to its interests, receives a considerable share of the profits, and has power to take over, at fixed prices, crude petroleum and products manufactured therefrom; and (3) that the Administration of the Colony are able at any time to subject the company to their influence in such a manner that its legal character is not changed. The Janm Petroleum Co., which is the name of the company proposed to be established, will, it is said, fulfil these conditions.

A capital of 2,500,000 (about 245,000, at par exchange) is considered necessary for the exploitation of the fields, and in order to assure this amount guarantees are to be given by the State. The first issue will be for 500,000 in registered shares, the holders of which will have a vote in the management of the Company. As need arises, the Company will subsequently issue bearer shares to a maximum amount of 2,000,000, also under State guarantee. Other shares will be placed on the market when the business is in operation; these will not be guaranteed, but a higher dividend will be paid upon them.

British firms interested may consult the text of the Bill (in Dutch) together with a map of the petroleum fields, in the inquiry Office of the Department of Overseas Trade (Development and Intelligence).

THE LORDS AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

A TWO-TO-ONE MAJORITY.

By the unexpectedly large majority of 134 to 71 the Lords on January 10th rejected Lord Loreburn's amendment to delete the women's suffrage clause from the Education Bill, a result arrived at after three different Ministers had appealed to the House in three different senses—the first to support the amendment, the second to vote against it, and the third to abstain.

Except for the observations of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Russell, all the speeches of the debate came from Unionist peers, and most of them were delivered in opposition to the amendment. Perhaps the most striking feature of those orations was the vigour with which they put forward and upheld the view not only that the will of the people must be allowed to prevail, but that its verdict in this instance had already been made manifest through the repeated decisions of the House of Commons. As usual in such invocations, one side declared itself to be submissive as the other to ultimate authority, the only difference between the rival sections being described as one of interpretation. Thus while Lord Selborne, Lord Lytton, Lord Russell, and the Prime Minister were all convinced that the nation had made up its mind in favour of women's suffrage, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Chaplin and Lord Oxborough (formerly Colonel Channon) sharply challenged this assumption. Indeed, the Lord Chancellor, in advising his fellow-peers to vote for the amendment, threw doubt not only on the theory of the national approval, but even on the hypothesis that women themselves desired the vote.

Nevertheless it was fairly evident from the outset that whatever might be their estimate of the forces of public opinion in the country, the opponents of the bill were not disposed to quarrel with the other House on the subject. Even Lord Curzon, in calling up the resources of a lively and acerbated wit at the expense of the suffragists and their cause, found himself constrained in the end by considerations of prudence and in the interests of the national unity to counsel abstention from the division in preference to a hostile vote—a precept which both he and Lord Peel (the Minister in charge of the Bill) presently enforced by personal example.

AN EFFECTIVE WARNING.

As in the first day's discussion, so again on the following day the general argument failed to throw any fresh light on its familiar subject. Not for the first time one heard the proposal to enfranchise women denounced in the language of superlatives—by the Lord Chancellor as "a significant experiment" and "a step less than a revolution," and by Lord Curzon as "a vast, incalculable, almost catastrophic change." Nor, despite its

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The finest preparation made for combating severe coughs. CURES any cough that is only a cough. Very palatable. OF ALL CHEMISTS.

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apparently impressive effect, was there much novelty in Lord Finlay's suggestion that, in the event of a general election before the close of the war, pacifism might be enabled to exploit the votes of women electors with disastrous results—indeed as disastrous as to lead eventually to "the end of the British Empire."

While Lord Loreburn, as he owned, discerned in this warning a tribute to the peace-loving instincts of women which, if it were true, would redound to their honour, Lord Selborne, on the contrary, resented it as an unwarrantable imputation. "What have the women of England done," he indignantly demanded, "to justify such a taunt from the Lord Chancellor?" From the same peer, whose speech was deservedly singled out by Lord Curzon as one of the ablest of the debate, came the first of a succession of solemn reminders to Lord Loreburn and his friend of the seriousness of the conflict in which they were inviting the House to risk its future. "No, no," protested the anti-suffragist, on being told that their motion was a motion for the rejection of the bill, "indirectly no, but in effect yes," insisted Lord Selborne, proceeding in the same undignified style to warn his interrupters that if they obtained their way now it would be to court humiliation later and find themselves completely isolated from the national sentiment.

LORD CURZON AND THE COMMONS.

Afterwards, as has been indicated, Lord Curzon, while dealing out chaff and banter with a liberal but shrewd rather mischievous hand to the suffragist victors, virtually echoed Lord Selborne's note of warning. "Old and obsolete as the House of Commons had become," he observed, "it was still the sole constitutional representative of the people, and on a matter of this kind it would undoubtedly insist on having its way. Consequently Lord Curzon, speaking in a strictly unofficial capacity, was in favour of an immediate, voluntary capitulation in preference to an enforced surrender later.

No demonstration of any kind marked the announcement of the division.

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No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	200	100	10	10
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No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	100	50	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon	100	50	10	10
TAI-KO-TEU				
Commonwealth Dock	100	50	10	10
ASKEW				
Hope Dock	100	50	10	10
Lowest Dock	100	50	10	10

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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on
WEDNESDAY,
the 13th March, 1918, at 10.30 a.m.,
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Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

INDIAN TWIN-MOTOR CYCLE
S.H.P. lately overhauled in good
running order.
2 New TYRES, LAMP, &c.
Terms—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 8, 1918. 223

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on
WEDNESDAY,
the 13th March, 1918, at 10.30 a.m.,
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

Four Brass Twin Bedsteads (New).
A number of pairs of Ladies' and Gent's
Boots and Shoes.
Gent's Coats, Vests, Hats, Ties, &c.
And
A quantity of DRESS MATERIAL.
Terms—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 7, 1918. 217

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction,

on
WEDNESDAY,
the 13th March, 1918, at 12 Noon,
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

THE CLOTHING AND EFFECTS OF
the late Police Sergeant JOHNSON.
Terms—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 11, 1918. 226

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the Liquidators of the Firm of Messrs. FUSCHARD LOWMAN & Co. to sell by Public Auction,

on
MONDAY,
the 25th March, 1918, commencing at
11 a.m., at Ma-tai-ko, Kowloon City Road.

A QUANTITY OF
SECOND-HAND CONTRACTORS' PLANT.

Two 15-ft. Invenible vertical double crank compound set condensing twin series direct action centrifugal pumping engines (one left hand and one right hand) steam cylinders 9 1/2 in. by 21 in. by 15 in. stroke with the necessary fittings and suction and delivery pipes for a lift of about 90 feet.

Two Gates Rock and Ore Breakers (Allis Chalmers Co.) one No. 6 right angle style and one No. 3 right angle style with revolving screens, concave tilters and fittings.
One 30 in. by 10 in. Blake Crusher (Fraser & Chalmers) with manganese jaw plates.

Two Taylor's patent 1 yard Concrete Mixers with Steel Framing and fittings, various and spare gear.

One 8 in. Double Cylinder Manchester Pump by Pearns Tin and 15 in cylinders 14 in. stroke with suction and delivery pipes about 90 ft.

One 10 H.P. double cy. Babey Portable Engine with usual fittings and mountings.

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Also
A quantity of Steel Wire Rope, Old Metal, &c.
On view from 10th March.

Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Feb. 21, 1918. 21

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on
WEDNESDAY,
the 13th March, 1918, at 11 a.m.,
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

5 FOX TERRIER PUPS.
Terms—As usual.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 8, 1918. 219

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY,
the 14th March, 1918, at 12 o'clock Noon,
at their Sales Rooms, No. 8,
Des Vaux Road, Corner of
Ice House Street.

The Steam-Ship
"HONGKONG,"

as she now lies on the EAST POINT of NAUCHAU ISLAND about twenty-five miles from KWAN-CHAU-WAN. Together with her ENGINES, BOILERS, ANCHORS, CHAINS, &c., &c., and such other SHIPS equipment as may be found on board, (but, no CARGO is to be considered in this SALE).

"The SHIP is now guarded by the FRENCH authorities." For further particulars apply to the Undersigned.

Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 7, 1918. 218

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on
THURSDAY,
the 14th March, 1918, at 2.30 p.m., at "Rock Villa," No. 13, Wong-Nai-Chong Road, (next door to Le Calvaire).

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., &c., &c.
Consisting of—
Carved Blackwood Overmantel, Settees, Curio and Silver Cabinet, Joss Table, &c.

Teakwood Sideboard and Dinner Wagon, Dining Table and Chairs, China Cabinet, Crockery, Glass Ware, etc.
Teakwood Twin Bed, Teakwood Wardrobe, Dressing Table and Double Bed.

Also
Teakwood Ice-chest, Cooking Stove and Utensils, etc.

PIANO in splendid condition by S. Montre & Co., excellent Gramophone, records and record cabinet, white Cockatoo and cage, etc.

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Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Mar. 9, 1918. 222

FOR SALE

FOR SALE.

TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 135 Peak.

Apply—
DUNCAN CLARK,
LANE, CAUFORD & Co.
Hongkong, Mar. 1, 1918. 197

FOR SALE.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

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Built 1916, had very little usage, Hull ... Teakwood Length, water-line 22' 9"; over all 25' Beam ... Draft ...

Motor "Scripps", Heavy duty 14 H.P. Complete with Lavatory, Refrigerator, & Suit of Sails, and all Accessories. Price and full particulars may be had from the Undersigned.

Terms—Cash.
HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, Jan. 9, 1918. 21

BRIDGE SCORERS

In Blocks of 10 SHEETS.
20 cents each.
Four for One Dollar.

Obtainable at
The Office, 1111, 1113 & 1115, Wing Lok Street.

THE SITUATION IN SIBERIA.

COSSACK LEADER INTERVIEWED. DETERMINED TO RID SIBERIA OF BOLSHIEVISM.

HARBY, Feb. 8.
Semenoff, the leader of the Cossack movement in Siberia against the Dolcheviki, who has been called to Harbin to discuss the military situation with the local authorities, was interviewed by a correspondent of the "P. and T. Times." The interview was interesting in many respects.

Semenoff is just the type of man one would expect to lead a movement like the present one. He is a little over medium height, very strongly built and looks to possess great endurance. He has a full round face, eyes set far apart, straight nose with a great square chin, denoting strength and determination. In manner and speech he is quiet and unassuming; his speech is simplicity itself and is devoid of that bombast so characteristic of the majority of those who are trying to secure positions for themselves by raising a force to be financed by the Allies. With all his simplicity Semenoff impressed me as being a man who would carry out anything he started upon. He may not be a Napoleon or a man capable of directing great armies, but he has that personal magnetism so necessary in a movement like the present one if it is to be made a success. All those who come in contact with him appear to be swayed by his force of character and to be impressed with his sense of patriotism.

Semenoff explained to me that his force consisted of Mongols, Buriats, and Cossacks. He was originally appointed to the control of these men in his district in Siberia. It was originally intended that he should raise a force which should be despatched to the front, but before he could get his organization in operation, the Dolcheviki had overthrown the government and spread disorder, murder and pillage all over the country. When he saw what was happening he decided to continue his organization of the men in his district for the purpose of restoring order and upholding the provisional constitution.

He began his work without money and with but few arms, his original force consisting of twelve men. With these he made raids on small Bolshevik centres, capturing their arms and ammunition, and each time he did so he increased his force correspondingly.

His force had now reached fifteen hundred officers and men, and with this he now controls the Siberian railway from Manchuria station to Chita, his men holding all the important points.

He explained that the men under his command were controlled by the strictest discipline. When they joined his force they were compelled to take an oath of obedience to their officers and had to obey an order even if it meant death to them. Before taking the oath it was explained to those enlisting that no looting or robbery would be tolerated, that they must salute their officers, and other prohibited acts were also explained to them. They were told that minor offences would be punished by flogging, the more serious offences by death. Semenoff pointed out that this might sound unduly harsh, but Bolshevikism had done so much to destroy discipline that only by such harsh methods could it be restored. With the object of preventing his movement becoming successful and to counteract his growing influence many reports have already been circulated charging the men under him with having committed robbery and violence. All these reports are untrue, being part of a propaganda against him by those who are attempting to carry out other schemes themselves.

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Hongkong, August 1, 1917. 200

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Four rooms, bath in Kowloon.
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111, 113, 115, Wing Lok Street.
Hongkong, August 1, 1917.

"Attempts have already been made to force me to give up command of my force, to one of the other of the officers who in this district of the army rank below myself. This I have refused to do for the time being. I was willing to do so if I thought it would be for the good of the cause. When my men heard that I proposed doing it they came to me in a body and told me they would not recognize any other leader than myself. As matters stand now, I am convinced that it would be unwise of me to hand over control of my force to someone else. The district in which I am operating has expressed through their civil representatives their confidence in me and their willingness to give me what financial support they can. But they are not very rich and very little can be expected from them. Moreover, while there has been considerable talk in Harbin and district about raising a force nothing of any material consequence has been accomplished. Should, however, the movement grow to such an extent that it should become advisable for an officer of higher rank and importance to take command, I would be perfectly willing to serve under him; but I insist that until the movement has been successfully launched the control of it should be in my hands. Other responsible authorities are of the same opinion."

"As to my immediate needs they are not great when consideration is given to the results to be obtained. I need money as my men. At the present time they are getting sixty roubles per month and at the present rate of exchange this would amount to very little. I want clothing, boots, a few thousand rifles with plenty of ammunition, a number of machine-guns and a battery of artillery. These are the main requirements; there are others of minor importance which go to make up the equipment of a force like mine. The strength of my force will depend on the amount of financial assistance I receive. Had I a large sum of money my force would grow very rapidly, and of specially selected men at that. If I had five thousand men with the necessary machine-guns and artillery I could clear the line of Bolsheviks right through to Kaledin. With the railway in our hands we should strategically control the whole situation in Siberia. The German prisoners would be practically helpless if I had a strong force at Karaminsk, the junction of the Amur and Trans-Siberian. The control of the Railway would also allow me to get through to Kaledin the supplies he so urgently needs. At the present moment he is very short of ammunition and military supplies. If Kaledin by a force sympathetic and in accord with the Allies, the vast stock of supplies now rotting on the wharves in Vladivostok could be sent on to him, and he would then be in a position to force his way to the Russian front and render assistance to the Rumanian Army, a thing most vital to the Allies' interests."

"It is necessary that immediate action be taken, for the longer the Bolsheviks are left in control, the greater will be the opportunity for the Germans, who are now being given great freedom and opportunity to carry on propaganda work, to dominate and control them. If we can prevent the Bolsheviks securing German assistance and guidance, their influence in Siberia will rapidly decline. From the very start the Bolsheviks only totalled about twenty-five per cent. of the Siberian population. It is a case of the minority controlling the majority, but in this instance the minority had the arms and munitions to enforce the law, and they have successfully carried this out by murder and atrocity until the majority through fear has become an inert mass, afraid to do anything in its own self-defence. The Bolsheviks, on account of their Russian origin, are being discredited and the men going to their homes in the interior are rapidly dwindling and a well organized and disciplined force could quickly rout them."

"There is also a growing feeling of antagonism among the people to the Bolsheviks. The soldiers are returning to their homes and finding their families in a state of distress, with no possibility of their securing work. The price of foodstuffs has considerably risen in most districts, and owing to the manufacture being almost entirely paralysed, the people are being starved. The Bolsheviks have made them have been kept the promised peace, wealth, comfort, and a constitutional form of government are not in sight. In fact, conditions in Siberia are much worse than they were in the old days. The people, tired of bloodshed and strife and disappointed by not having received the blessings they were promised and looked forward to, would welcome any movement which would restore order and allow them to carry on their ordinary occupations. I am convinced that, once my movement is launched, it would gather in force like a rolling snow-ball. It is my plan, if I can secure the necessary financial assistance, to have supplies needed by the people to follow up my advance. These are to be sold to the people at reasonable prices, and at the same time they are to be assisted financially if necessary to carry on their ordinary agricultural work. By this means, I would so pacify the people that it would not be necessary to have a large force guarding my lines of communications in the rear. The people would be satisfied, and that would be the best guarantee of safety."

"There has been an attempt to make the people believe that my movement is in the nature of a second revolution; it is nothing of the kind. I am not interested in politics and am leaving that to those whose business it is to control such affairs. I am a soldier doing a soldier's work and have no intention to interfere with anything else. I am naturally a believer in a constitutional form of government, for that is the only form of government that will deal justly with the people and give them such laws and protection as will allow them to march along the road to progress. As long as Bolshevikism prevails, this country will be in a state of anarchy, for the Bolsheviks do not recognize any authority, and as soon as one of their number reaches a position of any importance he is immediately suspected of being a bourgeois, and is either killed or removed."

"I tried to find out what support Semenoff could count on from local Russian organizations. He told me that he had been visited by the representatives of the people from all over Siberia and they had promised him their support. He felt sure of the moral support but how much financial support he could secure it was impossible to say. The Bolsheviks had control of all the Banks and would only allow the individual to draw a very small sum quickly, rubles 150, and under such conditions it was almost for him to estimate how large the sum would be from the interior towns, but a large amount should be obtainable from merchants in Harbin and district. A movement was now on foot there to raise such subscriptions and to secure the support of the Germans and there is no slightest doubt but that they would endeavour to utilize the large number of German prisoners now in detention camps in the Far East. I am presently in need of money, outlined Semenoff, "and if I do not secure it I shall have to resort to other means to get it. For the purpose of keeping my men in the field and opposing the Bolsheviks to the last I shall levy contributions from the different towns and districts. I am much against such a policy, for it is following Bolshevik tactics and will in all probability be misunderstood both by the people of the country and by foreigners. But there will be nothing else left for me to do if I wish to continue my operations against the Bolsheviks. If I am forced to such a measure I am hoping that it will only be for a little time, for I can keep my force in the field for some time longer and carry out certain plans which I have already drawn up. I believe that voluntary subscriptions will be raised by the people and that foreigners will then have learned how much it is to their interests to render me assistance and support. Should foreigners decide to give me financial assistance they can handle the money through a committee of their own. This committee will look after the disbursements and the purchase of supplies. I do not want to touch their money and it is with regret that for the sake of trying to further my country's cause I have to appeal to them."

"I warn you that unless something is done to combat Bolshevikism in Siberia, which is a really a German-controlled organization, not only will the vast resources of Siberia fall into the clutches of Germany, but the Allied position in the Far East will be endangered. The Germans who are now travelling freely in Siberia with forged passports will be able to intrigue and carry on their propaganda work with results it is impossible to imagine."

Semenoff told me he expected to return to his command in a few days and would carry on his campaign as best as he could with the limited amount of ammunition he had at his command. The facts as outlined by Semenoff concerning the growing power of Germany in Siberia have been borne out by other people who have lately travelled extensively in the interior, and from the investigations I have been able to make I am impressed with the absolute necessity of the Allies doing something of a definite nature to protect their own interests."

CHERRY & CO.,
PEDDER STREET,
Opposite Hongkong Hotel.
Telephone No. 491.
Hongkong, March 20, 1918.

JAPANESE MAKER.

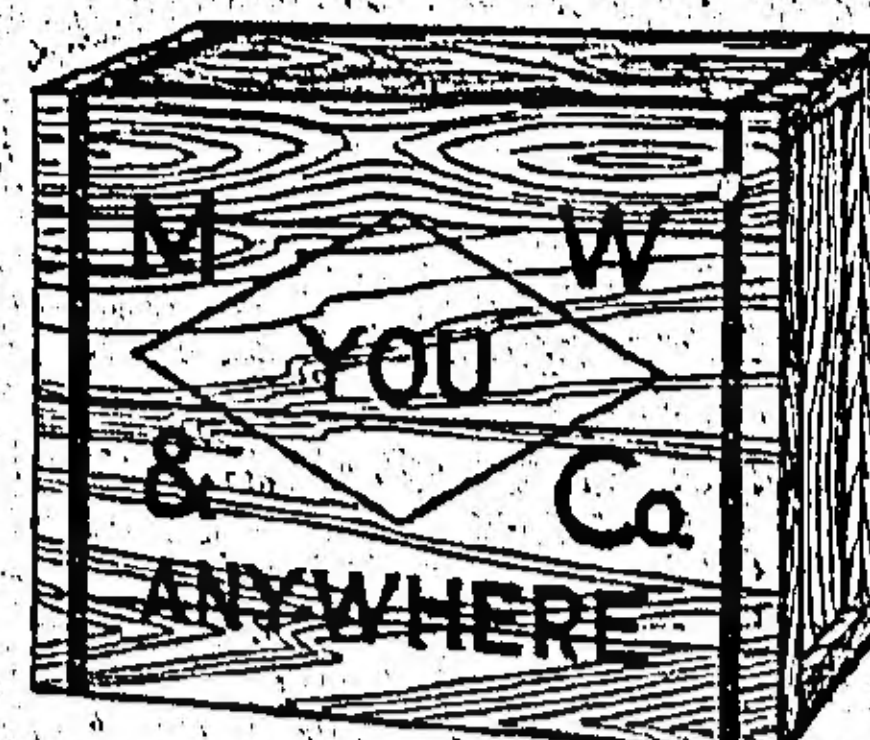
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To-day's Advertisements

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Hongkong, Mar. 12, 1918.

G. R.

1918-19.

SEALED TENDERS will be received at the R. N. HOSPITAL until 10 A.M. on the 20th March, 1918, from Persons Desirous of supplying Beef, Mutton, Fowls, Pork, Bread, Cheese, Pure Cow's Milk, Aerated Waters, Ice, and other provisions and necessaries for the year ending 31st March, 1919. Printed Forms of Tender and further particulars can be obtained at the R. N. Hospital. The right to reject the lowest or any Tender is reserved.

G. A. DREAPER,
Deputy Surgeon-General.

R. N. Hospital,
Hongkong, Mar. 12, 1918.

THE CALENDAR.

MEMO. FOR TO-DAY.

9.15.—Harmon's Circus at Causeway Bay.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

MONDAY, Mar. 18.—
5.30 p.m.—Annual Meeting of Members of Hongkong Club.

SATURDAY, Mar. 23.—
11.30 a.m.—Green Island Cement Co. annual meeting.

MONDAY, Mar. 25.—
11 a.m.—Auction of Messrs. Funchard, Lowther & Co.'s Contractors' plant at Matankou.

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 27.—
Hongkong Stock Exchange Settlement Day.

FRIDAY, March 29.—
Good Friday.

SUNDAY, March 31.—
Easter Sunday.

THE 'CHINA MAIL'

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communication addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.
All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.
Rate of subscription to 'China Mail' is \$26 per annum; per quarter and per month 'pro rata'.
The 'China Mail' is delivered free to subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.
Postage is charged at the rate of fifty cents per month.

Orders for extra copies of the 'China Mail' should be sent as soon as possible; this supply is limited. Cash 10 cts., C.O.D. 20 cts., per copy.
Rate of subscription to the 'Overland China Mail' is \$12 per annum; post 5 cts. per annum extra. Single copies twenty-five cents each.

Alterations and additions to advertisements on pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 should be sent to the Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11.30 a.m.
Alterations and additions to advertisements on pages 1, 4, 5 and 6 should be sent in not later than 1 p.m.
New advertisements should be sent in before 9 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered to a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.
Telephone Address: Main Hongkong, Code: A.B.C. 5th Edition.
Telephone No. 22.

THE CHINA MAIL, LTD.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

It is stated in a Peking telegram that the Central Government has remitted to General Lung Chi Kwong three lacs of dollars.

Telegraphic advice from the San Francisco office of the China Mail S.S. Co. advises that the a.s. China left that port for the Orient on Tuesday, 5th March.

The Eastern Telegraph Co. has received advice from San Francisco that the United States Censor will refuse to pass, for the present, all telegrams of a social, personal, or unimportant character.

A telegram has been received from Major General J. C. Dalton, Chief Commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, expressing the sympathy of the Brigade with the sufferers in the recent Race Course disaster.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. Martin T. H. Blake, son of Mr. W. G. Blake, and Anna (Nan) Patterson, daughter of the late Mr. R. J. Patterson, solicitor, Glasgow, and Mrs. A. Ogilvie, Darbar Villas, Kowloon.

Hidden under many tons of coal in the starboard bunker of a steamer arriving recently at Manila from Hongkong, 117 lbs of opium valued at about \$35,000 were discovered within a few hours after the vessel docked, secreted in a pile of coal.

The Chinese River Steamer *Man Shan*, 115 tons, was put up for auction, this morning, at Messrs. Lammer's Sale Rooms. The bidding started at \$50,000 and was taken to \$42,000, but as this figure did not reach the reserve the steamer was withdrawn for sale.

Before definite news of the disaster at Happy Valley reached Singapore, we learn from the *Singapore Free Press* that many rumours were current in that town of something terrible having happened at Hongkong, the most common rumour being that an earthquake had destroyed the town, the Praya and business houses suffering most, one account giving the whole staff of a business establishment as having been lost.

THE MAGISTRACY.

THEFT OF TOBACCO.

A Chinese pleaded guilty when charged before Mr. E. D. C. Wolf this morning with the theft of a quantity of cigarettes and tobacco valued at \$20. It was stated that the complainant was a hawker. He was occupied in closing up his stall for the day yesterday when his back was turned, to steal a box containing the tobacco. Defendant attempted to run away when he was seen, but was chased and caught.
Mr. Wolfe sentenced the defendant to three weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF OPIUM.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with being in the unlawful possession of 20 taels of opium other than Government opium. It was stated that the defendant was arrested on board the a.s. *Taming* and the opium was found in his possession.
Mr. Wood imposed on the defendant a fine of \$500 with the alternative of four months' hard labour.

NAVAL AND MILITARY HONOURS.

The Naval Honours List includes the names of Vice-Admiral Frederick Charles Tudor, Tudor, C.B. (who received a K.C.M.G.), and Commodore Henry George Glas, Sandeman, R.N., who received the C.M.G.
Among the military honours we notice that Colonel and Hon. Surgeon-General James Murray Irwin, C.B., M.B. (Ret. Pay), late A. M. Service, received a K.C.M.G.

A FAMILY NECESSITY.

EVERY family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lambs back, lame shoulder, pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this liniment and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by all Chemists and Grocers.

SUMMARY COURT.

CATERING FOR RUSSIAN CADETS.

RUSSIAN STEWARD SUED.

In the Summary Court, this morning, before Sir William Rees Davies, K.C., Chief Justice, Chou Woo and Company claimed \$1,000.00 from P. Fullman for goods sold and delivered.

Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the defendant and Mr. J. H. Gardiner for the plaintiff firm.

Mr. Gardiner said, the assistant manager of the Chou Woo Company would tell his Lordship that his firm had been in business and was in the habit of supplying provisions to Russian steamers and other boats that came into the Harbour. A Russian cruiser came into the Harbour sometime ago and the assistant manager went on board to see the steward for the purpose of booking orders. There were several stewards, the present matter, only concerned the steward who supplied the Cadets—a man named Serdechny. Goods were supplied up to the middle of January. When the assistant manager went on board as usual for orders on that date he was told by Serdechny that he was to take orders from a man named Fullman, who would be responsible. Fullman was then present. There was some trouble on board the cruiser and Serdechny apparently belonged to one of the factions. However, there was trouble and Serdechny was sent away. He left the steamer and went to Vladivostok, and when plaintiff went to collect his account, Fullman refused to pay the full amount, but paid for all the goods supplied up to the middle of January. At the original interview with Serdechny and Fullman they both told the plaintiff that they were in partnership, and that the account would be paid by Fullman when the money was collected from the Cadets.

The assistant manager of the plaintiff firm then gave evidence as to supplying the goods and of his interview with Serdechny and Fullman.

The case stands adjourned.

HONGKONG ST. GEORGE'S DAY FUND.

The Committee acknowledge with thanks receipt of the undernoted subscriptions to the above Fund.

Further donations will be gratefully received by the Hon. Treasurer, c/o Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

Mr. J. Scott Harrison	£300
Sir R. Ho Tang	250
Mr. E. A. M. Williams	100
"Poker"	1
"Spero"	100
"Cards"	8
"Unexpected Bonus"	35
	£794

J. H. Ramsay,
Hon. Treasurer.
Hongkong St. George's Day Fund.
12th March, 1918.

THE NAMOA DISASTER.

Messrs. Bradley & Co., Ltd. ask us to acknowledge the receipt by them of the following further subscriptions to the Namoa Island Relief Fund:

A. V. Apcar, Esq.	\$25.00
C. Thorne, Esq.	25.00
Pari Mutual Fund	15.00
"Hope" (Canton)	37.00
Messrs. Douglas Laprak & Co.	500.00

LAST NIGHT OF THE CIRCUS.

To-night is the last night of Harmon's Circus on this visit to the Colony. The circus has many excellent attractions but the great catastrophe which has cast a deep gloom over the entire Colony has naturally made itself felt in the patronage which has since been accorded to the circus. There has been nothing to beat Harmon's Circus in the East for a very long time, and there is no doubt that but for the race-course tragedy, the daily attendance would have continued for many days to be as large as that on the opening night.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 9th March is as follows:

	Receipts for week	Aggregate Receipts for 10 weeks
This year	12,991	141,393
Last year	12,259	138,082
Increase	732	3,311
Decrease		

A LIFE SAVED.

It is safe to say that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera, and Diarrhoea Remedy has saved the lives of more people and relieved more suffering than any other remedy in existence. It is known all over the civilized world for its speedy cures of colic, cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, and all stomach and bowels ailments. For sale by all Chemists and Grocers.

THE RACE COURSE TRAGEDY.

FIFTH DAY OF INQUIRY.

VIEWS AS TO CAUSE OF COLLAPSE.

The Coroner (Mr. J. R. Wood) and Jury (Messrs. A. H. Barlow, W. C. Jack and J. H. Wallace), continued the inquiry this morning.

Ma Cheung Kee, the son of Ma Fong, the deceased partner in the firm of Tin Hop, examined by the Crown Solicitor, said he was a partner in the firm. He was in charge of the office. There were six partners. Four were in the country. He had been a partner since his father died—three years ago. He took no part in constructing the stands. The Race Course stands were the same this year as last. When the owners of the booths came to him he instructed Kwok Kan to proceed with the work.

By the Coroner.—He discussed the prices with the purchasers after consulting Kwok Kan. He did not charge more for sheds Nos. 4, 5 and 6. They were the same price as last year. The work on the sheds was paid for according to the price of the sheds. There was no scale of charges. It was not arranged to put better work into some sheds than others.

By Mr. Bowley.—His father and Kwok Kan had equal shares in the business. When his father was alive he looked after the books and supervised the work. He took no actual part in the erection of the sheds.

By Mr. Stevenson.—The prices for sheds Nos. 4, 5 and 6 were the same as the previous year. He had charged \$180 each for the past three years. Before that he could not say. That price was for the same work for the three years. By the Coroner.—His firm did not make much profit last year. There was a small profit. The year before last there was no profit and no loss. There were 20 odd other firms of matched builders in the Colony. He was doing less business the year before last than in his father's time. Last year his business was "average." He employed 75 foks.

Ma Cheuk Sam, in reply to the Crown Solicitor, said he had been foreman of the Tin Hop firm for four years. He supervised the erection of the sheds. He had 70 to 80 men working. He commenced to build the sheds on February 7th. He was continually in charge and inspecting the work. Kwok Kan was also there and Ma Cheung Kee was there sometimes. The material used was mostly new. He found no bad work and received no complaint from the Public Works Department. He inspected the sheds on the first day of the races. He was there from 7 a.m. till noon supervising. He could not say how many people were there. The number was about the same as last year. He inspected the sheds at the same time on the second day. One of the poles in a gangway had moved and he had it put right. He could not say how many people were there on the second day. He was not there when the collapse occurred. He could give no reason for collapse. He had been building sheds for twelve years. He had never experienced any collapse. He saw no signs of tampering with the lashing when he inspected the sheds.

By the Coroner.—When he inspected the sheds he went inside, downstairs and upstairs.

By Mr. Bowley.—When he left the Race Course at 12 o'clock on the 26th February all the sheds were in good order. In the afternoon he was supervising work at the old Mercantile Bank. He was there all the afternoon.

By Mr. Lo.—It was usual to drive poles into the ground to secure the struts sometimes; sometimes it was not. If he had a stump of a tree to lash the struts to, it was done, and it would not be necessary to drive poles into the ground. He lashed some struts of the Race Course sheds on to rails and trees. It was necessary to drive three or four poles into the ground. He could not say that sheds 1, 2 and 3 and 17 and 18 did not collapse because they were not so tall as the others. He could not say why the others collapsed.

Mr. Lo asked whether it would have made any difference if struts had been erected on the Gold Club side. After various replies to the interpreter, the Coroner said he thought it would be better to leave the question.

EVIDENCE BY BOOTH HOLDERS.

Mr. J. J. Blake stated in reply to the Coroner that he was a partner in sheds 4, 5 and 6, called the Unity stand.

In reply to the Crown Solicitor, witness said that Mr. Olsen and Mr. Warren were the other partners. He bought the site at auction in the name of "Unity." Mr. Olsen obtained the permit for the erection of the stand. His stand consisted of a basement and a story. He had had the shed for the last 15 years. At his request the contractor had put a double upright under the counter. He did not think there was more of a crush at the counter. With this exception the sheds were the same. He did not know when the sheds were commenced. They were finished on the Sunday before the Race. Mr. Olsen and himself inspected the struts and uprights on the previous Thursday and on the Sunday they inspected the flooring. He gave no instructions to the contractor. Mr. Olsen did that. Anybody was admitted without payment. The shed was really built for Service men who could not get into the Grand Stand. This year the Service

men were not admitted, owing to the sickness prevailing in the Colony. He had two watchmen to control the admittance. They were instructed that no amuse with children on their backs were to be admitted and also no small boys. There was no limit to the number admitted. There were about 300 people in his stand on February 26 at about mid-day, on the upper story. That was the largest number that day. In previous years they had had about 400. The ground floor was used for refreshments. It was left off to M. Y. San. No payment was made. He did that for the benefit of his customers. There were three or four charcoal chatters on the grass in No. 6 stand. There were no boards on the grass there. He had three large barrels of water on the lower floor of No. 6 stand and on the upper floor had eight fire buckets with water, as a precaution against fire. Cooking went on only from about 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. One chatty was used after 1 p.m. for tea. It had been the custom to have cooking for 13 years, ever since he took the stands. About four years ago he complained to Mr. Hough, because he was Clerk of the Course, about a three-story stand being erected on site No. 7. He complained on the first day of the Races, because on that day the upper floor of shed No. 9 gave way and he was afraid that shed No. 7 might give way also. Mr. Hough told him he had nothing to do with the matter and advised witness to complain to the Government. He did not complain to the Government. He had had a three-story stand beside his own ever since. There had been no complaint since. On the occasion referred to the uprights under the flooring of No. 9 moved. There was no accident. He learnt of that by the people rushing into his stand saying the floor had given way in No. 9. There was something of a panic. No further report except that made to Mr. Hough was made. He did not speak to the contractor about it. He had never known of any other accident. There was communication this year between his shed and the Jockey Club shed to allow amuse and Chinese ladies to come in and buy sweep tickets. That had always been the same since the Jockey Club had a stand there. When the collapse occurred he was standing at the sweep counter in shed No. 6, at the front, waiting to ring the bell when the race had started to stop the sale of tickets. He heard a cracking sound from the direction of No. 7. He looked up and saw the partition of No. 7 falling into the United Stand. The counters in his own stand saved him from being crushed. He did not know of any casualties in his stand. He got out by the front of the shed to the Race Course. He heard a cry by someone, and returned to the shed and found a small Portuguese boy behind some matting with his leg jammed in the floor. He got him out and in doing so he hurt his side and was assisted out by a Mr. Ford. That was all he knew of it.

In his opinion the cause of the collapse was that the three stories shed was too heavy when occupied.

By Mr. Stevenson.—He told Mr. M. Y. San that he would have no fire in the stand except charcoal and that fire were to be put out immediately after the time had been served. At half past one he went to see that the fire were extinguished, and that had been done except one chatty. He inspected the room each day. There was a continual flow of people in and out of his and all the stands. There were sweepstakes going on in all the stands. He sold tickets in his sweeps to the ladies in the Jockey Club stands. The counter which held the partition up in his stand was "brand new" and made of hardwood. They were made purposely for himself. He had two watchmen and two Chinese detectives on his stand.

By Mr. Bowley.—He received no instructions from the Fire Brigade or the police with regard to fire precautions. His precautions were his own idea. No intoxicating liquors were sold for private consumption. He did not know whether M. Y. San had a licence to sell refreshments. He was running a pari-mutuel. He had always had a pari-mutuel. He regarded it as permissible to gamble in his stand since gambling was allowed in the Grand Stand. He had been doing so all these years and no attempt had been made to stop it. He did not see the fire. He did not originate in his shed. He could not say when the collapse commenced. He did not want to convert the impression that No. 7 shed collapsed first. He had 48 chairs in his stand. The entrance to the upper was quite separate from the entrance to the lower floor. There was an inside staircase.

By Mr. Lo.—When the floor of No. 9 stand gave way in 1914 he formed the opinion that it was unsafe to have a three-story stand. He told Mr. Hough that he thought there would be a serious accident some day if they had three-story stands. He did not think it necessary to report to the officials, once he had reported to Mr. Hough who put him off. It was only this year that three-story buildings were erected on a wooden floor. They had not always, in his opinion, been top heavy, only since the uprights rested on the boards. This practice began in 1912.

By the Coroner.—The contractor raised every upright on a particular board above the floor this year. His shed was not built on that system. The uprights were on the ground. He noticed the other method to shed No. 12 on Monday Feb. 25. He did not see it anywhere else. He had no occasion to go into other sheds. He had not seen the practice in previous years. In his opinion that practice rendered two-story stands unsafe. Up to the time he had noticed that he did not consider three stories unsafe. He protested in 1914 because the flooring gave way. When he complained to Mr. Hough he said it was nothing

to do with him. He only had a heavy impression then that three-story buildings were unsafe. He did not form or express a decided opinion.

By Mr. Bowley.—In 1914 the contractor was sent for. He got extra supports put in his own shed after the accident. He did not know whether that was done to other sheds.

Kwok Kan, recalled, said in reply to Mr. Bowley, that he placed the uprights on pieces of wood on the floor boards and lashed to the floor boards to prevent the uprights going through the floor boards. He was not told by anybody to do that. He did it on his own account. He started doing that last year. He did not agree that this way of doing it made the sheds top-heavy and liable to fall over. It was just as safe as any other way. He did not suggest having a double board to his partner before.

By the Crown Solicitor.—He did not remember the flooring collapsing in No. 9 stand four years ago. One board broke by the leg of a wooden stool striking it. The stool was dropped. That was all the damage. He did not have to put in an extra support. He only put in a new piece of board.

Mr. J. Olsen, examined by the Crown Solicitor, said that he was a partner in stands 4, 5 and 6. He received a permit from the P.W.D. He gave instructions for the erection of the stands. He told the contractor to carry on as in former years. The sheds were completed in accordance with instructions. He examined them on the Thursday and Sunday before the Races. The material was generally good and sound. He was in the stand at five minutes to three on Feb. 26, on the first floor. He was behind the pari-mutuel counter. He saw a rush of people towards the entrance shortly after he noticed the partition wall between sheds 6 and 7 coming down. A little slowly. He was thrown down. He got up and shouted to the people not to be afraid. That stopped the stampede to a certain extent. He got over the counter and assisted some women to escape on to the Race Course. There were no casualties in his stand, as far as he knew. He saw a fire about five minutes after the collapse.

By the Coroner.—He was one of the last out of the shed. He got out on to the road. The matting had been ripped off. He saw the fire directly he got out. It was in the centre of the stands.

By the Crown Solicitor.—This was the thirteenth year he had had a stand. He could not say what caused the collapse. He did not know of the accident in 1914 until Mr. Blake told him in 1914.

By Mr. Stevenson.—His firm erected counters in Unity stand. About 300 people were on the stand at about five minutes to three on the day of the collapse. Mr. J. Deakin, a constable at Government House stayed in reply to the Crown Solicitor that he was in Mr. Blake's stand on Feb. 26. He was assisting in the pari-mutuel at about three o'clock. He heard a cracking noise and he saw the partition awaying backwards and forwards. He was thrown down. For a few moments there was a stampede then, but none before the collapse. All the people got out. He did not see any sign of fire until he got out. He had no opinion as to the cause of the collapse.

By the Coroner.—

He had his back to the Golf Club House and he was thrown forward.

Sanitary Inspector R. R. Wood, in reply to the Crown Solicitor, said he was in Mr. Blake's stand on Feb. 26 when the collapse occurred and he corroborated the statement of the previous witness, as to what occurred. He heard Mr. Blake ordering the chatters to be put out about ten minutes past two. He could not say what the cause of the collapse might be. He estimated the number of people in Unity stand to be about 300.

Leung Wan Man, a shoof of the Victoria Cinematograph, said in reply to the Coroner that he was in Mr. Blake's stand on Feb. 26 on the ground floor. He was collecting money in the refreshment room. At three o'clock there were about two chatters alight.

Choi Hong Chuen, the Secretary of the M. Y. San Refreshment Company, said his firm supplied refreshments to Leung Y. Fong at sheds 4, 5 and 6. He was not present at the sheds on February 26. So far as he knew all the food was cooked beforehand. It was only heated up at the stand. He provided chatters and charcoal.

By Mr. Bowley.—M. Y. San only held an eating house license and not a license for intoxicating liquors. He did not take out a license for the Race Course sheds.

Mr. P. P. Xavier, proprietor of the Hongkong Printing Press, stated he had had a share in the Xavier Booth on site No. 7 for about nine years. He took out the P.W.D. permit this year and gave instructions to the contractor to erect the stand, the same as last year. His stand was a three-story one. This year the ground floor was used for refreshments; the first floor for cash sweeps and the top floor was only half the size and specially reserved for ladies. He did not give any special instructions to the contractor. He examined the stand on the Sunday prior to the Races and everything was in good order. He supplied refreshments on the stand. No cooling was done but a Chinese chatty was used for boiling water. Only charcoal was used. There was one main entrance to his shed on the first floor. There was no entrance on the ground floor. The door on the first floor was about six feet wide.

The inquiry was adjourned after Mr. Xavier's evidence had been completed.

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

PALESTINE OPERATIONS.

BRITISH ADVANCE ON A 13-MILE FRONT.

THREE TOWNS TAKEN.

London, Mar. 10. A Palestine official report states:— Our advance northward has continued.

Yesterday morning, we crossed the Wadiulja and captured a strong Turkish position five miles westward of the Jordan.

We advanced on either side of the Jerusalem-Nablus Road on a front of 13 miles to an average depth of from two to three miles.

We occupied Kefr Malik, Selwad and Telasur eastward of the road.

The enemy unsuccessfully attempted to re-take Telasur.

We encountered little opposition to the west of the road.

THE OPERATIONS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

BRITISH OCCUPY HIT.

London, Mar. 10.

A Mesopotamia official report states:—

We occupied Hit on the Euphrates yesterday morning without opposition.

The Turks retired seven miles up the stream.

London, Mar. 11.

Hit is a hundred miles west of Bagdad.

It has rich petroleum deposits.

THE SALONIKA FRONT.

FRESH BRITISH ACTIVITY.

London, Mar. 10.

A British official report from Salonika states:—

We pushed a post at the mouth of the Struma River, killing the entire garrison.

A BULGARIAN REPORT.

London, Mar. 11.

A Bulgarian communiqué states:—

After artillery preparation the German "storm" troops penetrated enemy trenches in the Cerna bend, north of Kopech and brought back French prisoners.

THE MENACE TO PETROGRAD.

RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT TRANSFERRED TO MOSCOW.

Petrograd, Mar. 11.

The *Pravda* declares that the transfer of the Government to Moscow demonstrates the firm determination of the Government to resist to the end the German attempts to make Russia her vassal, and it proves that there is no understanding between the Revolution and German Imperialism.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, Mar. 11.

A French communiqué states:—

There was reciprocal artillery activity at Bandisapt and Violu.

Our aeroplanes dropped fourteen tons of bombs on enemy works behind the lines.

AVIATORS BUSY ON ITALIAN FRONT.

London, Mar. 11.

An Italian official report states:—

Aeroplanes in daytime and airships in nighttime dropped seven tons of bombs on enemy aerodromes and camps.

All returned.

The British brought down two machines.

AIR-RAID ON NAPLES.

Rome, Mar. 11.

A semi-official report states that in an air raid on Naples twenty bombs were dropped, killing a number of people.

DEPREDACTIONS OF THE RAIDERS.

Copenhagen, Mar. 11.

The War Department states that the centre of gravity remains in the *Agostini* reports.

AMERICAN WAR REVIEW.

GERMAN INTENTIONS.

Washington, Mar. 11.

The War Secretary's weekly review of the war states:—

In the West, despite enemy efforts of 31 years to shift it eastward, the enemy is completing the redistribution of his available forces. There is nothing in the situation to indicate that he has abandoned the plan of a major offensive in the West. He has developed two principal centres of activity, one pivoting on Rheims and the other in Alsace on Lunenburg.

The Allies, while they are on the alert for the offensive, are content to allow the enemy to break his strength in assaults on the impenetrable lines. The British and French morale was never better.

The activity of the American Press is daily extending and their numbers in line are constantly increasing.

They now man trenches at four separate points.

The review, in summarising the operations, expresses the opinion that the Germans are preparing for more extensive action in the Toul sector and are contemplating an offensive in the mountain area of Italy, possibly with a view to debouching to the plain through Vaila Carina.

This will doubtless develop when the weather improves.

AMERICA'S SHIPPING RESOURCES.

CONTINUOUS MONTHLY INCREASE FORESHADOWED.

Washington, Mar. 10.

America's shipbuilding programme has been advanced by the completion and delivery in February of 17 ships aggregating 121,000 tons.

The Shipping Board officials estimate that in March the delivery will be 23 ships of a tonnage of 188,000.

Washington, Mar. 11.

The authorities are confident that there will be a continuous monthly increase in shipbuilding, reaching a total output of 4,500,000 of new tonnage by January, 1919.

Men and supplies are being forwarded to General Pershing, according to schedule.

AMERICAN WAR SECRETARY IN PARIS.

Paris, Mar. 11.

Mr. Baker, the American Secretary of War, with a staff of seven, has arrived in France.

LATER.

Mr. Baker arrived in the Capital to-day.

He will call upon President Poincaré and M. Clemenceau, and will remain a few days. He will then inspect the American training camps.

GERMAN ICE-BREAKER SUNK BY A MINE.

Stockholm, Mar. 11.

The ice-breaker *Hindenburg*, accompanying the German expedition, struck a mine and sunk off the Åland Islands.

Three of the crew were killed and eight wounded.

PAN-GERMAN IDEA OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

Berlin, Mar. 11.

That Pan-Germanism is now prevalent in Germany is reflected in an article by the Breslau University Professor, Hasse, in the *Schlesische Zeitung*.

He says: Now that Russia is adequately dealt with, it is Italy's turn. Italy must cede to Austria all territory up to the Tagliamento river, restore Tripoli to the Turks, and cede Somalia to Germany.

As regards France, Herr Hasse says: A tremendous war indemnity and a suitable commercial treaty is necessary, but these are not sufficient. France must cede the basins of the Longwy and Brey, and the forts of Verdun, Sungau and Belfort, the remaining occupied districts of France to be restored when an indemnity of £2,000 millions is paid.

Further, Germany would require western Morocco, with Tangier, part of the French Congo and French Somaliland.

SAFE CONDUCT FOR COUNT LUXBURG.

Buenos Aires, March 10.

Great Britain has granted a safe conduct to Count Luxburg to proceed to Sweden.

RUMANIA'S HUMILIATING PEACE.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ENDEAVOUR.

London, Mar. 11.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour stated that the Peace Treaty between Rumania and the Central Powers had not as yet been ratified.

The Government know the enemy terms before they were assented to. The Government very deeply sympathised with Rumania in the cruel position in which she had been placed. (Cheers.)

It would certainly be the Government's duty and endeavour to obtain at the Peace Conference a revision of the harsh terms imposed upon Rumania.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN SPAIN.

London, Mar. 11.

The *Times* Madrid correspondent says that the German Ambassador, in a letter to the *Sol*, admits the authenticity of Stober's letter and Senior Pascual's visit to the Embassy, but asserts that the Embassy broke off relations with Senior Pascual when he learnt that he was an anarchist.

The *Sol*, replying to the letter, maintains the assertions, reserving further evidence till the trial.

THE FOOD PROBLEM AT HOME.

Successful fortnight of rationing.

London, Mar. 11.

The fortnight's experience of rationing in London and the Home Counties has proved very successful. Margarine and meat queues have practically disappeared.

It is stated that there was a surplus of meat returned to the cold storage on Saturday; yet it is announced that heavy manual workers have double rations.

The scheme for rationing bread, to be issued shortly, will necessitate fewer bakers.

BRITISH LABOUR AND PEACE.

Demonstration of enemy's honest intention demanded.

London, Mar. 11.

The *Telegraph* states that the Germans are laying an electrified wire barrier 200 metres behind the present electric wire along the frontier of Flanders to the Dutch province of Zeeland, and extending to the coast.

All the inhabitants of this broad strip of land are being removed.

It is suggested that the object is to cut off Belgium more completely from the world in view of the concentration of troops for a big offensive.

The *Handelsblad* says that the German soldiers expect a big attack from the coast.

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

Japanese negotiate with anti-Bolsheviks.

Washington, March 11.

The reports of Japanese negotiations with the anti-Bolshevik leaders for some form of political aid in Siberia are confirmed.

It is reported that the Japanese are trying to raise a Russian Division to co-operate with the Japanese.

A NEW RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.

Headquarters at Peking.

Petrograd, Mar. 11.

The *Pravda*'s *Pravda* correspondent states that the ex-Premier Prince Lvoff, has established a new Russian Government in the Far East with Headquarters at Peking and is awaiting the landing of the Japanese with a view to co-operation.

COMMISSARIES GO TO MOSCOW.

Petrograd, Mar. 10.

M. Tchicherin, succeeds M. Troitzky as Foreign Commissioner.

All the Commissioners went to Moscow on Saturday.

The *Iskra* and *Pravda*, the official Soviet organs, have transferred their offices to Moscow.

LATEST EXAMPLE OF HUN BARRIERY.

London, Mar. 10.

The body of an officer of the torpedoed hospital ship *Glennard Castle* has been picked up containing two gunshot wounds, confirming the suspicion that the pirates fired on some of the escaping boats.

THE LOST GERMAN COLONIES.

Reprisals for seizure of property.

Amsterdam, Mar. 10.

The *Colony Gazette* says that Germany is considering measures of reprisal for the seizure of German property in German colonies.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

REPORTED LANDING OF GERMAN TROOPS IN FINLAND.

Stockholm, Mar. 10.

It is reported that 3,000 German troops with artillery have landed near Abo in Finland.

So far there is no official confirmation.

RUSSIAN PROTEST.

London, Mar. 10.

A Russian message says that M. Tchicherin, the Bolshevik Foreign Commissioner, has protested to the German Government against the introduction of German troops in Finland and the Åland Islands.

THE GERMAN PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST SCANDINAVIA.

Amsterdam, Mar. 10.

Count Reventlow is the latest writer to participate in the inspired German press campaign against Scandinavia.

The Count declares that German control of Finland and the Åland Islands will effectively bar Anglo-American trade with Russia and Scandinavia. He accuses Sweden of increasing partially for the Entente, thus estranging Germany.

A WARNING.

Stockholm, Mar. 10.

The *Dagens Nyheter*, in an article warning Scandinavians of the German-Finnish menace, says the German Ragdad-North Cape programme is blocked in the south, but now, across Finland, Germany is seeking an outlet to the Arctic at the mouth of the river Patzjoki, which is Norwegian.

A GERMAN SOP FOR SWEDEN.

London, Mar. 10.

Evidently seeking to allay anti-German feeling in Sweden, owing to the German occupation of the Ålands, the Kaiser has telegraphed to the King of Sweden, thanking him for the efforts of the Swedish Minister in Petrograd on behalf of German prisoners and dwelling on the old Germano-Swedish friendship.

The King of Sweden replied briefly.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

German report.

London, Mar. 10.

A German official report states:—

We repulsed strong reconnoitering thrusts southward of Mousy.

Strong French detachments penetrated our forward trenches between Anceville and Badonville. Our counter thrusts drove them out.

ISOLATING BELGIUM BY WIRE BARRIER.

Amsterdam, Mar. 10.

The *Telegraaf* states that the Germans are laying an electrified wire barrier 200 metres behind the present electric wire along the frontier of Flanders to the Dutch province of Zeeland, and extending to the coast.

All the inhabitants of this broad strip of land are being removed.

It is suggested that the object is to cut off Belgium more completely from the world in view of the concentration of troops for a big offensive.

The *Handelsblad* says that the German soldiers expect a big attack from the coast.

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

Japanese negotiate with anti-Bolsheviks.

Washington, March 11.

The reports of Japanese negotiations with the anti-Bolshevik leaders for some form of political aid in Siberia are confirmed.

It is reported that the Japanese are trying to raise a Russian Division to co-operate with the Japanese.

A NEW RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.

Headquarters at Peking.

Petrograd, Mar. 11.

The *Pravda*'s *Pravda* correspondent states that the ex-Premier Prince Lvoff, has established a new Russian Government in the Far East with Headquarters at Peking and is awaiting the landing of the Japanese with a view to co-operation.

COMMISSARIES GO TO MOSCOW.

Petrograd, Mar. 10.

M. Tchicherin, succeeds M. Troitzky as Foreign Commissioner.

All the Commissioners went to Moscow on Saturday.

The *Iskra* and *Pravda*, the official Soviet organs, have transferred their offices to Moscow.

LATEST EXAMPLE OF HUN BARRIERY.

London, Mar. 10.

The body of an officer of the torpedoed hospital ship *Glennard Castle* has been picked up containing two gunshot wounds, confirming the suspicion that the pirates fired on some of the escaping boats.

THE LOST GERMAN COLONIES.

Reprisals for seizure of property.

Amsterdam, Mar. 10.

The *Colony Gazette* says that Germany is considering measures of reprisal for the seizure of German property in German colonies.

THE HAPPY VALLEY TRAGEDY.

PONTIFICAL REQUIEM MASS AT SHAMEN.

(From a Correspondent.)

A Pontifical Requiem Mass for the repose of the Souls of those who perished in the recent disaster at the Happy Valley, Hongkong, was held at the Roman Catholic Chapel, Shamoen, on March 11th, at 8 a.m. His Lordship Bishop de Guebriant officiated and was assisted by the Reverend Father Floquet. Almost every member of the Portuguese community of Canton attended the impressive religious service.

Wreaths were placed at the foot of the catafalque on the nave of the Chapel. One floral tribute bore the following lines:—

Is Memorial.

Ye, who linger on the shore. Amid such stress and storm and strife, Weep not, mourn not any more. For the loved ones gone from life.

Cruel fate had torn away Young and old from many a home. Though they suffered, yet we say Out of evil good had come.

There is now the Better Land. There is peace for evermore. Do not mourn, ye little band, Ye, who linger on the shore.

A SALAMENTARY.

One the invitation of Mr. Abilio Busto, the Portuguese Vice Consul, who had charge of the arrangements in connection with the Requiem Mass, the Reverend Father Netto of Shin Hing delivered a most touching sermon after the Mass. His allusion to the battery having its wings singed, recalls the beautiful lines:—

"The desire of the moth for the star. Of the night for the morrow. The devotion to something afar From the sphere of our sorrow."

The clergy then left the Sanctuary and went in procession to the catafalque where the Last Benediction was pronounced by His Lordship and the Requiem Mass and the Requiem in Pace sung by the clergy.

The solemn piety and devotion of the congregation gave one the impression that the service was more than a conventional expression of sympathy. It was indeed an outward manifestation of genuine sorrow, not only for the relatives and friends so tragically snatched away from life, but also for the hundreds of fellow-beings who have been victims of an appalling catastrophe.

In mourning the loss which their community in Hongkong had sustained the Portuguese residents of Canton extend to the Chinese, Japanese, Indian and other communities their deep sympathy in a common sorrow. They avail themselves of this opportunity to record as well their deep sense of gratitude to Monsiegnor de Guebriant, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Canton, not only for officiating at the Requiem Mass, which was such a tangible mark of sympathy with them, but also for the great interest invariably manifested in promoting the welfare of their small community.

To the Reverend Father Pradel of the Roman Catholic Chapel, Shamoen, as well as to the Reverend Fathers Floquet and Netto, and the French clergy they are also greatly indebted for assisting at the Solemn Requiem Mass. Mr. Abilio Busto worked indefatigably and Messrs. Fernandes, Noronha & Co. very kindly undertook the printing free of charge.

A SIKH MEMORIAL MEETING.

At a general meeting of the Khalsa Diwan, Hongkong, held on Sunday the 10th inst., after the completion of the "Akhand Path," the uninterrupted reading of the Holy Sikh Scripture, as announced in the *China Mail* of the 9th inst., special prayers were offered for the unfortunate souls who perished in the Happy Valley calamity. The meeting was largely attended and beside the distribution of free food in memory of the occasion, sums equivalent to Rs. 450 were devoted to Sikh charitable institutions in India, in addition to a free scholarship to deserving Sikh boys now studying at the Queen's College.

At the conclusion the following resolutions, by the Honorary Secretary Mr. Bishan Singh, and seconded by Mr. Mahan Singh, were unanimously passed:—

1. That the entire Sikh Community record its humble thanks to the Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce (who have also so kindly sent a letter conveying their sympathy to all the community). The Portuguese, Chinese and the Japanese communities for their sympathetic expressions with the relatives and friends of those who fell victims in the catastrophe.

2. That the meeting respectfully desires to tender its deepest sympathy to the local Mohammedan, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese and any other community, which has suffered the loss or injury of relatives and friends at the disaster.

3. That the Press be requested to kindly convey the above condolences through their columns.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, Mar. 11.

Messrs. Samuel Montagu and Company's Silver Report states that the Market is steady and the quotation unchanged (Shanghai exchange has a firm tendency). The market speculative position, which hitherto has been a source of weakness, has been redressed by over one-half. The Indian silver holding has been slightly increased.

RESTRICTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT.

London, Mar. 11.

The Committee of the London Metal Exchange has formulated a number of proposals for the United Kingdom, for examination by the Government, which are intended to restrict the export of silver.

Holders of goods may only sell to persons holding the Committee's license.

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS

AND ROYAL MENAGERIE.

THE LAST NIGHT OF THIS GREAT SHOW IN HONGKONG

OUR NEW PROGRAMME!

NEW ARTISTES. NEW ACTS.

REMEMBER WE PROMISE A CHANGE AND WE GIVE IT.

See our Beautiful Arab Stallions and Performing Ponies.

OUR MENAGERIE CONSISTS OF Elephants, Lions, Tigers, Bears, Leopards, Hyenas, Rams, Zebras, Wallaby, Baboons, Monkeys, Dogs, etc.

NOTICE.—Special Train Cars will run before and after the Night Performance to within two minutes walk of the Circus tent.

POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION: Full Box, Six Seats ... \$15.00. Single Seat, Box ... 8.00. First Seats ... 2.00. Stalls ... 1.00. Gallery ... 50 cents.

Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform, Half Price to the \$1. and \$1.50 seats.

Booking at ROBINSON PIANO CO., Daily.

W. HARMSTON, C. M. BRUCE, R. ALTON & W. SYMONS, Proprietors, Band Master, Agents.

"Only one can be best!" and the

